

MARYLAND BOARD OF MORTICIANS AND FUNERAL DIRECTORS

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 13, 2017

The meeting was called to order by James Govoni, President with a quorum. Mr. Govoni called for approval of the July's minutes. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

James Govoni, President
Mark Bailey, 1st Vice President
Dr. Camille Bryan, 2nd Vice President
Bob Bradshaw
D. Lynn Newman
Dr. Ahmed Elzaree
Wayne Cooper
Lynn Shuppel
Kathy Blue
Michele Kutta

ABSENT BOARD MEMBERS

Victor C. March

STAFF

Ruth Ann Arty, Executive Director
Thomas Anderson, Health Occupations Inspector
Deb Donahue, Board Counsel

APPROVAL OF JULY MINUTES

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Ruth Ann Arty, Executive Director began by thanking everyone for understanding the Board does not meet in August, which means we have 2 months of work to review.

We have been ready for 2 months to issue ID cards for registered mortuary transporters. IT did program the software and we have a sample Id, which printed well. The problem is, we cannot print one without printing them all. There are transport companies that have not fulfilled their obligation to send the pictures they are supposed to send. We have called everyone, however there are still some missing. We cannot print them one at a time.

The Transportation Regulations and Human Dignity class will be held tomorrow, September 14, 2017 at 1:30 pm.

The new Apprentice Regulations have been signed and are in effect. The apprentices the licensing committee saw this morning are clear that they are now subject to the new regulations which require more of them, but will produce morticians that have more experiences as apprentices. Please know today is the start date, so if there are apprentices already in the system or coming into the system, their requirements will be different. The new regulations will only effect the apprentices from today forward.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

No Report.

FAMILY SECURITY TRUST FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Lynn Shuppel, Chair reported there is currently \$1,065,386.60 in the fund.

The standing advisory committee will meet on Monday, September 12, 2017 at 1:30. Mr. Earl Canapp is replacing Ed Lassahn for MSFDA and Dr. Hari Close is replacing Carlton Douglass from MFD. It is an open meeting.

PRE-NEED COMMITTEE REPORT

In Victor March's absence, Ruth Ann Arty reported there are still firms that use their federal tax id number instead of the consumer's social security number on their pre need trust accounts.

LICENSURE COMMITTEE REPORT

D. Lynn Newman, Chair reported on the following applicants:

Apprentice

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Steven Fantl of Sagel Bloomfield Funeral Home for Apprentice. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Alexandra Wanless of Duda Ruck Funeral Home for Apprentice. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Beth Ann Smith of Duda Ruck Funeral Home for Apprentice. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mortician

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Danielle Fryer for Mortician. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Patricia Bridge for Mortician. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Newman moved for approval of reinstatement of Felix Greene for Mortician. The motion was seconded and approved.

Crematory Operator

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Nickolas Scarpelli of Scarpelli Funeral Home for crematory operator. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Angela Eckhardt for Crematory Operator. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Anthony Pittman for Crematory Operator. The motion was seconded and approved.

Courtesy Card

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Matthew Strano for Courtesy Card. The motion was seconded and approved pending background check.

Registered Transporters

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Rex Bowens of Meek Mortuary Transport for mortuary transporter. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Tameka Bowens of Meek Mortuary Transport for Mortuary Transporter. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Billy Hogue of Drew Removal Service for Mortuary Transporter. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Joanna Putnam of Drew Removal Service for Mortuary Transporter. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Joanne Mohr of Heartfelt Mortuary Transport for Mortuary transporter. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Kenneth Mohr of Heartfelt Mortuary Transport for Mortuary Transporter. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Bryan Tucker-Bey of Decedent Mortuary Transport for Mortuary Transporter. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Christopher Hillard of AGR for Mortuary Transporter. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Miranda Butler of AGR for Mortuary Transporter. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Randi Boyd of AGR for Mortuary Transporter. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Mikal Frater of AGR for Mortuary Transporter. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Sade Mealy of AGR for Mortuary Transporter. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Joshua Frye of AGR for Mortuary Transporter. The motion was seconded and approved.

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Mr. Newman moved for approval of Daniel Martinez of AGR for Mortuary Transporter. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Anjelika Bridges of AGR for Mortuary Transporter. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Jake Duncan of AGR for Mortuary Transporter. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Lindsey DeMarr of AGR for Mortuary Transporter. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Morgan Cephus of Alvin's Anointed Hands for Mortuary Transporter. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Kimberly Ellingsworth of Alvin's Anointed Hands for Mortuary Transporter. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Brittany Brooks of Alvin's Anointed Hands for Mortuary Transporter. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Angela Davis of Alvin's Anointed Hands for Mortuary Transporter. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Tremaine Bradley of American Transportation Management for Mortuary Transporter. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Derrick Medley of United Transport Service for Mortuary Transporter. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Newman moved for approval of Kevin Cory Williams for Mortuary Transporter. The motion was seconded and approved.

CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS REPORT

Dr. Camille Bryant, Chair reported on the following CEU's.

Sol Levinson The Role and Function of the Anatomy Board – 10/12/2017 – 2 CEU's.

Delmarva Funeral Service Association has a total of 3

MSFDA has a total of 3 CEU's

Selected Independent Funeral Homes – 2017 Annual Meeting 9/10, 9/11, 9/12, 9/13, 2017 – 10 CEU's.

Shelton Hackett – Tissue Gas, The Donor Case, Head and Facial Trauma, Adapting to a New Environment, Delayed Embalming, Jaundice 10/24/17 – 6 CEUs.

A motion was made and approved by the Board.

ESTABLISHMENT/INSPECTION COMMITTEE REPORT

Mark Bailey, Chair, reported on the following establishments.

Establishments

Mr. Bailey moved for approval of Black's Funeral Home, P.A., 17324 Sunshine Trail Sabilisville, MD 21780. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Bailey moved for approval of Pridgen Funeral Service, 1733 Albert Drive Lanham, MD for a full service establishment. The motion was seconded and approved, pending final inspection.

Mr. Bailey moved for approval of Value Choice Cremation and Funeral Care, restricted out of Sagel, Bloomfield, Danzansky and Goldberg Funeral Care, 1091 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mortuary Transport Services

Mr. Bailey moved for approval of Heartfelt Mortuary Transport. The motion was seconded and approved, pending vehicle inspection.

Mr. Bailey moved for approval of Meek Mortuary Transport. The motion was seconded and approved, pending vehicle inspection.

Mr. Bailey moved for approval of American Transportation Management. The motion was seconded and approved, pending vehicle inspection.

Mr. Bailey moved for approval of Decedent Mortuary Removal. The motion was seconded and approved, pending vehicle inspection.

Mr. Bailey moved for approval of United Transportation Services. The motion was seconded and approved, pending vehicle inspection.

OLD BUSINESS

The proposed new apprenticeship regulations were approved and signed and in effect for apprentices starting today. The apprentices we meet with this morning have been given handouts specifying the new regulations, the new amounts of embalmings and funeral assists and the types of arrangements that must be included in an apprenticeship. Every apprentice must do 1000 hours and one full year. In the new apprentice regulations, the number of embalmings has been increased to 25 and 24 for funeral services. Funeral services with casketed remains present, memorial services do not count.

There has been new consideration on the discussion of Family Security Trust regulations regarding adopting regulations, vote on remaining regulations or adopting change. We had input from the associations and various persons. Mr. Govoni moved for a vote on whether to keep the regulations as

written or accept the changes that were presented to pay the entire amount of loss refunds to persons who had applied to the FSTF for misappropriated pre-need. Mr. Govoni asked if there was any discussion. There was none. He then moved for a vote in favor or opposed to allow that regulation, regarding full payment, to stay the same. A motion was seconded and approved to remain the same. Vote was 10 for and 1 opposed.

NEW BUSINESS

Presently, the Board's budget is in Balance, going forward, however, due to an odd cycle year with licensees renewing, we will be in the red for almost \$100,000, after this next fiscal year. Linda Beyers, Fiscal Analyst for Boards and Commissions, reported the Board could balance the budget by not hiring staff for 14 months, to include the recently vacated Licensing Chief. Linda also explained we have indirect costs, and those are costs we have no control over, as they come directly out of our budget. She also explained that the fines received by the Board go to a special account separate from our general account which the fees go to, even though checks must be written to the Board.

Mr. Govoni reported that the transport classes will no longer be held, monthly. They will be every other month due to budget and staffing issues. Mr. Govoni asked if the associations would be willing to teach the mortuary transport class, which would be after training of the instructors, and would be an in person class.

An insurance memo was sent out to all of Insurance Agents who holds dual licenses, stating if you send a check to an insurance company funding a pre-need, it must be made out to the insurance company. A firm cannot accept pre-need funds for an insurance product, deposit into the general account and then write a check to the insurance company. That information is not new, it is in our statute, however there has been a lot of discussion and kick back when it clear in the statute, if you are funding pre-need, make sure the customer writes the check to the insurance company.

Continuing education fees were not being paid by some of the larger providers. Mr. Govoni and Ms. Arty contacted the providers who initially felt the back amount owed was too large a sum to pay. After negotiating, they came up with a reasonable compromise for debt owed. There will be a cap in course fees of \$1000.00, which would apply to all organizations. A motion was made to amend the CEU fee policy where there is a \$1000.00 cap on new course fees, and the previous fees remain the same. A motion was approved to not have CEUs read into record, approved or have them posted, unless the fee is paid.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

No report.

AJOURNMENT

Pursuant to Maryland State Government Article, Code § 10-501 et. Seq., on a motion by James Govoni, President, and seconded by the Board unanimously voted to close its open meeting.